

"Mens Sana in Corpore Sano."

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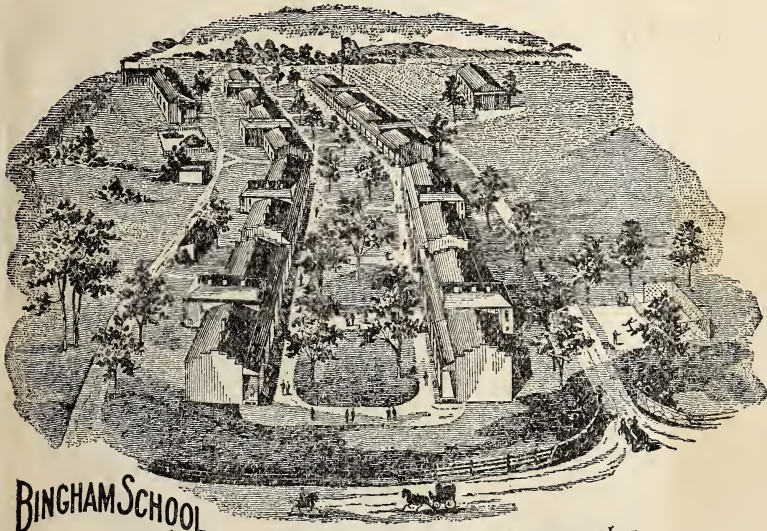
BINGHAM
SCHOOL

1793 ❁

❁ 1897

Established in 1793.

"MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO"



BINGHAM SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED IN 1793.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

GROUND PLAN OF BUILDINGS.

As seen and reported by
F. B. Arendell, Staff Correspondent
of "The News and Observer,"
Raleigh, N. C.

BINGHAM HEIGHTS.

One of the Chief Attractions in North Carolina's
Beautiful Cloudland.



THE FAMOUS BINGHAM SCHOOL.

One of America's Leading Institutions of Physical,
Moral and Intellectual Culture.



ITS UNEQUALLED EQUIPMENT,

Its Past Great Work, Its Present Excellence, and
Its Bright and Glorious Future.



**MAJOR BINGHAM, ITS ABLE AND PROGRESSIVE BUILDER
AND SUPERINTENDENT.**



ASHEVILLE, N. C., April 28.

I asked a prominent Asheville gentleman some days ago what were the three leading attractions at Asheville. "The Battery Park Hotel, the Vanderbilt Estate and Bingham School," he replied, without hesitation.

I knew that as to the two former the gentleman was correct, and made up my mind that I would verify his statement as to the latter. So I went to the corner of Patton Avenue and Haywood Street, and seeing a new electric car, having on each side "Bingham Heights," I reached for a nickel and got aboard. In a few minutes I was winding around the magnificent homes between Patton Avenue and the French Broad River. A few moments more and we were crossing the smiling river, at the foot of Bingham Heights. Proceeding, after a moment's gaze at the beautiful stream, I began a gradual ascent over a beautifully graded pathway, leading up beside a babbling brook, along by bubbling springs, blooming clover, laurel and jessamine, up the slopes of a magnificent hill, then on through a budding forest of native oaks and chestnut and maple, until I was on the summit of Bingham Heights, and there was spread out before me one of the newest and most attractive and complete school plants in America, a grand school city, built of brick, on both sides of a delightfully-shaded, grass-covered esplanade, into which open the doors of dormitories, class-rooms and Y. M. C. A. hall, with gymnasium hall and chapel near by, all in most perfect detail, and most systematic and convenient and charming arrangement, a beautiful little city of barracks, built upon a commodious hill, shaded by maples and oaks that nature planted, sweetened with the perfume of wild flowers that grow here as naturally as cedars grow in Lebanon, fanned by winds that are never ceasing and never boisterous, and smiled upon by the broad panorama of mountain grandeur on every side, by a blue azure sky above, and by a winding, whispering, laughing river below.

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Bingham Heights is naturally one of the grandest spots in the grandest country in the world, and Bingham School is to-day, in location, modern equipment, in perfect arrangement, in sanitary excellence, in complete detail, and in superb management, one of the best, if not the best, school plants in the United States.

Let no one be incredulous here—for I shall verify this statement directly with the voluntary opinions of men whose rank as statesmen, educators, army officers, physicians and business men, entitles them to speak—and when I had scanned Bingham Heights and had gone through every department of Bingham School, I was prepared to declare that the gentleman quoted was correct in his statement, except I should, in naming Asheville's three leading institutions, put Bingham School first.

Anyone who inspects the new Bingham School as I have done, must be convinced as I have been.

A brief history of this famous institution, which the United States Government's Bureau of Education says "is pre-eminent among Southern schools for boys," is proper in this place.

ORIGIN AND HISTORY.

The Bingham School was established in 1793 by the grandfather of the present Superintendent, Rev. William Bingham, who died in 1825, after having taught first in Wilmington, then in Pittsboro, then in the State University as Professor of Latin for five years, which position he resigned to return to the private school work, which he continued at his country home, in Orange County, till his death. He was succeeded by his eldest son, the late W. J. Bingham, who, as principal of the Hillsboro Academy, achieved a reputation unsurpassed by any of his contemporaries in other professions, and unequalled by any other teacher in the South. In 1844 he moved the School to Oaks, twelve miles southwest of Hillsboro, where he taught with unabated success till his health failed in 1864, his sons, William and Robert, being associated with him after 1857. It being difficult during the Civil War to get supplies so far from a railroad, in the hands of the late Col. William Bingham the School was moved again during the winter of 1864-65 to the nearest point on the railroad, three-fourths of a mile from Mebane station (and still in Orange County), where it remained till 1891. But up to that time, when a second disastrous fire in nine years drove it from its wooden buildings in middle North Carolina, Bingham's lacked an ideal situation and ideal comfort, safety, convenience, ventilation and sanitation in its buildings. In the unanimous and pronounced judgment of more than fifty physicians who have inspected it, and of hundreds of others from all parts of the Union, in the New Bingham School at Asheville the ideal situation has been secured, and the ideal comfort, safety, convenience, ventilation and sanitation have been attained.

"In the buildings," says the *Atlanta Illustrator* for April, "with accommodations for 120 pupils, two in a room and one in a bed, economy and mere show are subordinated to health, comfort, safety and utility. They are on the so-called 'cottage plan,' the ground plan of the University of Virginia and the plan adopted of late years by all civilized governments on sanitary grounds for barracks and hospitals. The dormitories are in eight sections and are placed on both sides of a street seventy-five feet wide. Dampness is prevented by a course of slate and cement under every floor, and the sun shines into every room at some time during the day. But the most distinctive feature is that a class-room, with quarters for a teacher behind it, is placed in the center of each of the eight ranges, so that the teacher is ubiquitous, and combinations for disorder in study hours are next to impos-

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sible. Every detail for the convenience and comfort of the pupils has been carefully provided, and one rarely finds a more comfortable spring-bed, or a neater and more airy and better-heated room in any first-class hotel."

I was prepared for the growing fame of Asheville by reflecting how many people it attracts from all parts of the country, and by the prominence of the large majority of its one hundred thousand yearly visitors. I was prepared to find a fine location for the School. I confess that I was not prepared to find so magnificent a school plant in North Carolina, or anywhere else; not magnificent in appearance—that cannot be said of it all, for mere show has been entirely subordinated to utility. But for convenience, for comfort, for discipline, for instruction, for safety, for health, and for sanitation, magnificent is the word. The form of the buildings has been given in the language of the *Illustrator*. The gymnasium is a model of its kind. There are beautiful tennis-courts. The play-ground is excellent. Athletics, under proper restrictions, are encouraged and provided for. The quarters, with their single spring-beds, compare favorably in every way with the quarters and bed that I had at the Battery Park Hotel. The arrangements for necessities are by far the best that I have ever seen in any public institution, and, in the language of the *Illustrator* again, "are Northern rather than Southern, European rather than American, in their sanitary completeness and common sense, and they impress every one who inspects them as being unqualified in excellence."

CULINARY DEPARTMENT.

But as much as I was impressed and astonished, to tell the truth, with everything else, having a weakness for creature comforts, and being a pretty fair judge of the same, I confess that the arrangements for feeding the boys, and the way they are fed, impressed me more, I believe, than anything else. The table, the tableware, the labor-saving appliances in the dining-room and kitchen, the absolute decorum of the boys at meals, but especially the excellent quality of food, its abundance, and the excellent quality of the cooking, deserve the highest praise. I travel a great deal, and so I can make a just comparison.

From the appearance of everything connected with the culinary department, and the well-laden tables of rich, tempting and well-prepared food, there are few hotels in the State that equal it, and none that surpass it. No wonder that all the boys say that Bingham fare is the best they ever saw at a boarding-school, and that their average gain in weight last year was nineteen (19) pounds.

VICE-PRESIDENT STEVENSON SPEAKS.

But lest some of my readers should think that I have overstated the case, I will give the opinions of others, whose political, official, scientific and social prominence must carry conviction to the most incredulous, beginning with Vice-President Stevenson, North Carolina's favorite in public life, and ending with the opinion of Col. J. S. Carr, of Durham, the great leader of the State's industrial development. On his return to Washington from Asheville in March, 1894, in a private letter to Josephus Daniels, published by permission in the *North Carolinian* of March 20, 1894, the original copy of which I saw framed in Major Bingham's office, the VICE-PRESIDENT says:

"It was my good fortune, a few days ago, to visit the Bingham School, at Asheville, North Carolina.

"It is impossible to speak too highly of this celebrated institution. Its location, buildings, sanitation and water-supply are all that could be desired. It would indeed be difficult to find a school whose location

possesses equal natural advantages. The corps of teachers, moreover, is excellent. Under Major Bingham, its present efficient Superintendent, this historic School has more than sustained its well-earned reputation.

"I take pleasure in commending it most earnestly."

This is high praise from a high source, and every word of it is deserved.

OPINIONS OF ARMY OFFICERS.

There is no equivocation in the following from Maj. Charles L. Davis, U. S. Army, Professor of Military Science and Tactics. Major Davis found here a school surpassing all others in the United States, and he said so, straight from the shoulder, under date of March 4th, 1894. He says:

"It affords me great pleasure to say that I regard Bingham School as the best institution of its kind in the United States, possessing as it does a superbly healthful location, easy of access, in the geographical center of the region east of the Mississippi, and the best facilities for developing the physical, mental, moral and manly qualities of its students, among whom I deem myself fortunate to include my son."

Lieutenant Jos. B. Batchelor, of the United States Army, a North Carolinian who takes special pride in the advancement of his State and its interests, says: "Bingham's School combines more desirable qualities than any other with which I am acquainted."

Capt. Henry Wygant, U. S. Army, Professor of Military Science and Tactics, says: "There isn't the equal of Bingham School, in my opinion."

Lieutenant J. B. Hughes, United States Army, says: "I cordially recommend Bingham's as the best school for boys in my knowledge."

Lieutenant John Little, United States Army, says: "The Bingham School possesses more attractive features and offers better opportunities for the mental and physical development of boys than any similar institution known to me;"

"Best" is a great big, broad word, and when used honestly and advisedly it means a great deal. In this connection the word is used advisedly, and it simply means, in the language of Major Davis, Captain Wygant, and Lieutenants Batchelor, Hughes and Little, all of the U. S. Army, who have been detailed as Military Professors in the School, that there is no equal to Bingham School to day in America, and perhaps nowhere else.

PHYSICIANS SPEAK.

As to the sanitary excellence and general healthfulness of an institution, there are none so capable of speaking as those physicians whose scientific study and practical observation fully equip them for expressing accurate and valuable opinions.

Dr. S. C. McGilvra, of West Superior, Wisconsin, after a careful and critical inspection of the School in April, 1894, said: "The location, the quarters, the class-rooms, the gymnasium, the equipment and service of the mess-hall and kitchen, the ventilation, the drainage, the sanitation, are much the best that I have ever seen anywhere, North or South, and must appeal very strongly to the smaller but higher class of parents who are satisfied with only the best for their sons."

Dr. McGilvra did not stop at "best," but went further and said "much the best," and he struck the keynote when he said that the School appealed strongly to that higher class of parents who would be satisfied only with the "best" for their sons.

Dr. P. L. Murphy, Superintendent of the State Hospital at Morganton, and one of the most eminent specialists in the South, says: "It was gratifying to me, a former pupil of this famous School, to find it fully abreast of the times in every respect. The reputation of the School under its present management for thoroughness, in every detail, of moral, physical and intellectual culture is at least up to the highest standard of its past, if not above it."

Dr. Karl von Ruck, member of American Health Association, and Medical Director of Winyah Sanitarium, Asheville, N. C., says: "I find that its sanitary appointments are exceptionally perfect and much better than I have ever found before in the numerous public institutions I have heretofore examined. I have not one single suggestion to make; on the contrary, I commend its appointments as a standard worth the study and imitation of every similar institution in the land."

Dr. F. V. Van Artsdalen, of Philadelphia, says: "The most distinguished of all the educational institutions of North Carolina is Bingham School. For sanitation and the principles of hygiene, I look upon it as not being surpassed by any similar or other institution in the world."

Dr. J. C. Erwin, of McKinney, Tex., says: "I have no hesitation in saying, after a careful examination of the sanitary conditions of Bingham School, that they are perfect in every detail and superb in their completeness. * * * Superior to anything I have ever seen before."

Drs. S. Westray Battle, Jno. Hey Williams, Jas. A. Burroughs, William D. Hilliard, representing the Medical Faculty of Asheville, after visiting and inspecting the School in a body, said:

"We have carefully examined the new school buildings on Bingham Heights, just without the city limits of Asheville, and take pleasure in bearing testimony as follows:

"I. The location, in natural advantages, leaves nothing to be desired.

"II. The buildings exceptionally fill the requirements.

"III. The sanitation is as perfect as scientific modern plumbing can make it.

"IV. The water-supply is abundant, the water of the purest, carefully collected from mountain springs, and without a chance of contamination.

"V. The all-the-year-round climate of Asheville is world-renowned, and with the School's exceptionally excellent equipment and sanitation, gives Bingham's special advantages not enjoyed by another school in America."

OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIARY OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Gov. Elias Carr, after visiting Bingham School, wrote as follows:

"I am pleased to add my testimonial to the superior advantages of the renowned Bingham School, now located near Asheville, N. C. I was a student at Bingham School when it was situated at Oaks, Orange County, in 1854. It was then the leading school in the State, and it has ever since been successfully managed and has enjoyed this reputation. After a careful personal inspection of the present location, and the sanitary arrangements made recently, I am impressed with the great improvement over the old plan of buildings used in my school days; and I have no hesitancy in pronouncing the location most desirable, the buildings excellent, the sanitary arrangements unequalled. In fact, it is a model school plant, with all the modern improvements. For three generations, extending over one hundred years, the Bingham have been distinguished educators, and the

School founded by them is an institution of which any State should be proud.

Justice A. C. Avery of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, says: "As an old student of Bingham School when under the management of the late W. J. Bingham, it was a great pleasure to me to see from a recent inspection of the work that my classmate, Maj. Robert Bingham, the present head of the School, is not simply keeping abreast of the times, but that, like his father, he is ahead of all competitors in thoroughness of instruction and discipline, as well as in parental oversight of the morals and care for the health of his pupils.

"The location of the School is among the most beautiful in the country, commanding a combined mountain and water view rarely if ever equalled. The drainage is excellent, and the sanitary arrangements are as nearly perfect as it is possible, by the utmost skill and by lavish expenditure to make them."

OFFICIAL REPORT OF GEN. CAMERON, THE HEAD OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT.

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
RALEIGH, April 24, 1896.

Having recently visited and inspected the Bingham School, near Asheville, it affords me much pleasure to testify to its admirable location, management and condition.

Located in the heart of the health-giving mountain region of North Carolina, its natural advantages in that respect are doubly enhanced by THE MOST THOROUGH and COMPETE SANITARY SYSTEM I HAVE EVER SEEN. It is but simple justice to say that *nothing* has been left undone that could contribute to cleanliness, health and comfort.

In my opinion, the School IS SECOND TO NO INSTITUTION OF ITS KIND IN THE COUNTRY.

(Signed) FRANCIS H. CAMERON,
Adjutant General.

The influence of a great State institution is seen most and felt most by those who conduct its public affairs, and the endorsements of Governor Carr, Judge Avery and General Cameron is evidence of the value to the State and the South of the great work accomplished by Bingham School.

EDUCATORS' ENDORSEMENT.

Dr. Geo. T. Winston, President of the University of North Carolina, speaking of the School said:

"The Bingham School would do credit to any State in the Union. I have known it well twenty years, by personal inspection and by the work of its pupils. It may challenge comparison with the best boys' schools anywhere."

Rev. Dr. T. E. Sampson, who has travelled in Scotland, Germany, Syria, and all over America, says:

"After a careful examination of the Bingham School in its new home near Asheville, I would like to say that I have never seen any school in America, or out of it, where the arrangements for the physical culture, and for the comfort and convenience of the young men, were so commodious and complete."

Dr. James H. Kirkland, Chancellor of Vanderbilt University, says: "The Bingham School has for many years been justly celebrated as one of the very best schools in the whole country. The good work it has done is attested by the records of the students it has sent out

into life or to pursue higher courses at the leading universities. It was recently my privilege to inspect the grounds and buildings of this famous School, and I can cheerfully say that every detail is in perfect accord with the leading idea on which the School is run. In all its appointments it would be hard to find a school in the South better equipped for work."

BUSINESS MEN'S ENDORSEMENT.

Col. Julian S. Carr, one of the acknowledged heads of industrial development of North Carolina, and one of the best friends that education has in all this Southland, recently visited Bingham Heights, and, after careful inspection, wrote as follows:

"I am pleased to have enjoyed a recent opportunity of making a trip to the celebrated Bingham School, and of going carefully over the premises. I need say nothing with respect to the curriculum, for the well known repute of the institution is older than I. But of the location, sanitation, etc., I desire to speak more particularly. It is beautiful as to location. The French Broad sweeps past the base of a bold cliff, upon which the institution is situated. For miles down the valley towards Paint Rock the view is charming. And towards the south rise Pisgah and the Blue Ridge; towards the east one sees the Black Mountain, the late home of Vance and the burial place of Mitchell. There is Vanderbilt's, glittering in the sheen of the setting sun. How can such a location, enshrined in the home of the health-giving ozone, be otherwise than charmingly delightful and remarkably healthful for the School. From the way the land lies the drainage is natural, and nature has done her work perfectly. The sewerage is most perfect and complete, and the ventilation and sanitation of the buildings are perfect. Neither expense nor pains have been spared to make the barracks what I pronounce the most perfect living rooms I ever saw. Health and disciplinary care is written in every feature of the institution, and those in search of the best need go no further. I am proud that North Carolina can boast of Bingham and Bingham School."

But much as I was pleased with the unequalled excellence of the new Bingham in every respect, and proud as I am, like Col. J. S. Carr, that North Carolina has Bingham and Bingham School, perhaps the thing which appealed to me most practically is the very high standing which the School has established for itself among the business enterprises and among the business men of Asheville.

Speaking of Major Bingham and Bingham School, Mr. George S. Powell, of Powell & Snyder, leading grocers of Asheville, said:

"Bingham School is one of the best institutions in the South, and Major Bingham, the Principal, is one of the most prompt and reliable gentlemen in his business dealings with whom we have ever dealt."

Mr. G. A. Greer, another leading grocer, said:

"Major Bingham is one of the best patrons I ever had. With him it is a pleasure to deal. He wants nothing but the best, buys the best and discounts every bill he buys by paying cash. He manages his great institution so well, and on such strict business principles, and he draws to it such a large number of valuable patrons, that he is at all times prepared to meet every business obligation."

Mr. Bernard, the President of the National Bank of Asheville, said:

"We regard Major Bingham as one of the most valuable individual factors that has ever been attracted to Asheville. He is a man of energy, of great learning, and of unquestionable business ability and integrity. His School here is a great success. I happen to know that during the past year Major Bingham has, from the resources of his School, paid off six thousand (\$6,000) dollars of the debt incurred in

the erection of the plant. A good showing, we call it, for times like these."

These things I mention because in this day and time nothing establishes a thing quite so accurately as bold, cold facts, and they show that parents and guardians all over the country have learned of the par excellence of Bingham School, and are encouraging its builder with an extended patronage.

FAIRNESS AND JUSTNESS OF THE DISCIPLINE.

One of the things that one hears oftenest from the boys at Bingham School is the absolute fairness of the discipline. On this point I will let Major Bingham speak for himself, as he does in the School Catalogue:

Article 15 is as follows:

RIGHT OF APPEAL.

"On every Saturday night, at a prescribed signal, the Faculty assembles in the Superintendent's office to hear any appeal by any cadet who thinks he has any complaint to make against any teacher, cadet officer or comrade, or against any other person, or for any cause whatsoever. A patient hearing is given to every appellant, who states his cause of complaint fully, and sustains it by any testimony he may be able to bring up. In this way errors are corrected, hasty judgment is prevented, avoidable causes of complaint are removed, and fairness, uniformity and justice are secured."

I cannot do better, in speaking of this admirable feature of the School's methods, than to quote in his own words the impression which this policy of fairness and overhanded justice made on Lieutenant J. B. Batchelor, United States Army, who had recently been subject to the methods of West Point. Says Lieutenant Batchelor, over his signature:

"The discipline cannot be too highly praised. Uniform and moderate, it presses on all alike; and while it is never excessive, it never relaxes. It is applied directly to the student body by means of the military organization—the best means for that purpose. The object of the School is to make, not soldiers, but cultivated Christian gentlemen; yet the foundation of this character can be laid only in self-control, which is discipline, and no machinery has yet been found, or can be found, for the moderate, even and constant application of discipline equal to the military organization, distinctly subordinated, as in this case, to the main work of the school."

"The discipline at Bingham's," continues Lieutenant Batchelor, "is eminently fair. Presided over by a man whose patience has never yet found its limit, and who desires to make his pupils feel by the treatment they receive that they are considered young gentlemen, any boy in the School who thinks that he has received less than justice, from any one, though that one be the Superintendent himself, is sure of a fair hearing and of a decision on the merits of the case, there being an 'appeal meeting' each week to hear all complaints. This, I think, is one of the most important features of the School. It springs from no weakness of discipline or desire to substitute concession for authority. On the contrary, it shows the strength of the discipline which can afford thus to examine and review its own acts, and if those acts are erroneous, to reverse them; and it forces the pupil to reflect that where he is so fairly heard and so fairly judged, the punishment awarded must be founded, not on caprice, but on justice, and this makes obedience to discipline in the School almost instinctive."

THE WAY TRUTH IS EMPHASIZED.

Another marked feature in the School's methods of character building which cannot be too highly commended, is the way in which the truth is emphasized. On this head I cannot do better than to let the School speak for itself, as it does in its Catalogue, as follows:

"Art. 14.—The TRUTH is the basis of every noble character; and as education is, more than anything else, the development of character, telling the truth is the basis of the discipline at Bingham School. We therefore always expect the truth from every cadet, and if any cadet makes an official statement which is not the truth, his comrades, after a full and fair investigation, ask his removal from the School as being unworthy to associate with them."

Every boy who enters the School does so with the distinct understanding that "his word must be his bond," and with this understanding, he makes a promise on his honor as a gentleman that he will abstain from three things, namely, from drinking or being in a bar-room, from having deadly weapons, and from hazing. This promise has been violated but four times in twenty years, and in each case the offenders were promptly arraigned, convicted by their comrades, and expelled by the Faculty at the instance of the cadet body for lying. Thus the honor method has stopped at Bingham's these three great evils, drinking, hazing and having deadly weapons, and when once established it prevents cheating on examinations, and other kindred forms of dodging responsibility. This idea of one meeting his responsibilities face to face pervades the life of the student body at Bingham's more, perhaps, than it has pervaded a student body since the days of Dr. Arnold at Rugby, and richly entitles Bingham's to its honorable sobriquet of "the American Rugby." I cannot do better on this point than to, give in Lieutenant Batchelor's, words the impression which this high sense of honor at Bingham's made on him, when Professor of Military Science and Tactics in the School ten years ago, and which shines with untarnished lustre still. His words are as follows:

"The pupils of the School represent the best people of the various sections of the country from which they come. It is important that the early associates of young men should be chosen from those whose acquaintance will be desirable in after years, and especially important that a boy should grow up among companions whose standard of thought is high and pure. I say with confidence that NOWHERE IN THE WORLD CAN A BODY OF YOUNG MEN BE FOUND AMONG WHOM THIS STANDARD IS HIGHER AND PURER than at Bingham's. Its pupils, like all boys, have their boyish faults and boyish failings; but they never fail to answer any call made upon them by the self-respect and honor of a gentleman. Some black sheep may come in, but they never taint the mass, and are soon gotten rid of by an almost unconscious rejection on the part of the cadets themselves. No boy who is not brave, frank, true and decent can stand the atmosphere of Bingham School."

THE FIFTH BINGHAM.

I was also very much gratified to meet Capt. Robert Worth Bingham, who has been connected with the School for four years, and to learn that this fifth Bingham of the fourth generation is so excellently qualified in every way to perpetuate the School, and not only to maintain, but to increase its renown, when the waning nineteenth shall have passed into the waxing twentieth century and beyond.

FREE CADETSHIPS.

Another very gratifying thing is that the School is about to resume the gratuitous work for which it has been noted for a hundred years, and which it was obliged to suspend while establishing itself in its new home. It is offering eleven (11) free cadetships to North Carolina boys, to be won by a competitive examination, like cadetships at West Point, Annapolis and other great schools. The scholarships cover tuition, board, lodging and lights, for which others pay \$250 a year, and are to be awarded by the two Senators for the State-at-large, and by each Congressman for his own district, to the young man who stands the best competitive examination on the 15th of August at such place and before such committee as Senator or Congressman may select, or on the 26th of August at the School in case no selection should be made in any district on the 15th. In this way the School will do North Carolina good by giving an education to a few picked young men; and will get good itself by the presence of these picked young men in its classes, and by giving the North Carolina public the opportunity to know more of its grand educational plant and facilities, which other States have got the proper perspective on already, as shown by the fact that the School has eighty (80) pupils on its roll this year from outside North Carolina, while North Carolina, with her proverbial lack of enthusiasm for the best work of her own best sons, has but a score of pupils in what is not only her own most famous School, but the most famous School in the South in the opinions of the competent and distinguished judges whom I have quoted, and for which opinions they alone are responsible, and not I. And it is the only private school in the South, or in the United States as far as I know, which puts a free scholarship at the disposal of each member of the Congressional delegation of the State in which it is located.

THE HIGH REPUTE OF THE BINGHAM BOYS IN ASHEVILLE.

I was very much struck, too, with the fine manly appearance and gentlemanly bearing of the boys, and with the very high repute which they have established for themselves in the city of Asheville. One hears the remark often from the leading citizens that no Bingham boy, while under the jurisdiction of the School, has been seen in a bar-room in Asheville, nor has any one of them ever been known to act on the streets in any way unbecoming a gentleman. Such a record would be impossible without excellent discipline by the School and without excellent blood and breeding in the boys themselves.

THE CHARGES ARE REASONABLE.

It is generally understood that Bingham's disclaims the idea of being a Cheap John concern. "We appeal," says the Catalogue, "to the smaller but higher class of parents who choose for their sons what is best, rather than to the larger class who take the cheapest;" and while it has always commanded somewhat higher tuition fees than any other school for boys in North Carolina, its charges are not above those of other schools of like grade and character in the South, and are below those of similar schools at the North and abroad. As a matter of fact, the charges are reasonable enough—\$150 per session pay school expenses, which include tuition, board, lodging, fuel, lights, military and gymnastic instruction, medical attention if needed, and books, the charge being at the rate of not quite \$1.13 per day. Now, I submit that if a parent or guardian thinks that a boy can be well taught, well fed, well housed, well warmed, well lighted, well instructed in military and gymnastic exercises, well doctored if he

needs it, and supplied with books, for any less than \$1.13 per day, such a parent or guardian hardly realizes the needs of a boy's body and mind.

THE FUTURE OF THE SCHOOL.

It is no wonder that such a School, with such a great past, with a greater present, and with a future greater than its past and its present combined, should attract pupils this year from eighteen States of the Union, extending from Ohio and Wisconsin on the north to Florida and Texas on the south, from the United States Army and should reach outside of the United States to Mexico; nor is it to be wondered at that it actually brings to North Carolina for education probably more young men from outside of the State than all the other colleges and private schools for boys in the State combined. The only wonder is that, under the pressure of calamity by fire and the consequent change of location, of persistent rumors of temporary and permanent suspension, under the pressure, too, of the long-continued financial troubles which have swamped so many business enterprises all over the country, the wonder is that, under all these untoward circumstances, the Bingham School has risen, Phoenix like, so grandly from its ashes, and that it should have equipped itself so grandly for another century of pre-eminence among Southern schools. The general public outside of North Carolina has already given its most unqualified approval by sending eighty (80) pupils to the School from eighteen States during the current year; and every North Carolinian who has inspected it is enthusiastic in his concurrence with this judgment of prominent people from Ohio and Wisconsin on the north, through Florida and Texas to Mexico on the south.

F. B. ARENDELL.



Area of Patronage of Bingham School.

THIRTY NINE localities were represented between the 84th and 104th years, inclusive, as follows:

Alabama,	Kentucky,	Ohio,
Arizona,	Louisiana,	Pennsylvania,
Arkansas,	Massachusetts,	South Carolina,
California,	Maryland,	Tennessee,
Connecticut,	Michigan,	Texas,
District of Columbia,	Mississippi,	Vermont,
Florida,	Missouri,	Virginia,
Georgia,	New York,	West Virginia,
Illinois,	New Hampshire,	Wisconsin,
Indiana,	New Jersey,	United States Army
Kansas,	North Carolina,	and Mexico,

IN NORTH AMERICA

Brazil, in SOUTH AMERICA

England, Germany, in
Scotland, Greece, in EUROPE

Siam, in ASIA